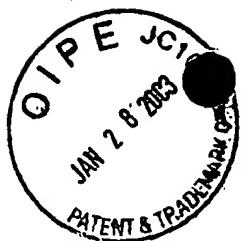


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2/5/03
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Fazan et al.) Group Art Unit 2823
Appl. No. : 09/037,945)
Filed : March 10, 1998)
For : STREAMLINED FIELD)
ISOLATION PROCESS)
Examiner : George R. Fourson III)
) I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
) marked attachments are being deposited with the
) United States Postal Service as first-class mail in
) an envelope addressed to: United States Patent
) and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327,
) Arlington, VA 22202, on
) January 24, 2003
) *Adeel S. Akhtar* (Date)
) Adeel S. Akhtar, Reg. No. 41,308

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on October 24, 2002, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 16 and 17 as shown below.

E 10. (Amended) The process of Claim 14, wherein growing the field oxide further comprises maintaining the oxidant partial pressure at about 5-30 atm.
11. (Amended) The process of Claim 14, wherein growing the field oxide further comprises maintaining the substrate at greater than about 900°C.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Germany '885 alone or in view of Marshall et al. In response, Applicants submit that these obviousness based rejections are addressed by Applicants' Appeal Brief (filed